

Project Censored at Sonoma State Univ. - Media Giraffe Profile

Project Censored at Sonoma State Univ.

Peter Phillips, Ph.D. - Director



"I'm more interested in publishing for ordinary people and using sociological research methods and sociological data to inform the public about key issues in society and what the powerful are doing. To me that is more of my mission . . . there's a whole important element of not only understanding the world but doing something to change it, that I think academics are really underutilized in that capacity."

Peter Phillips, in an August, 2005 interview with the Media Giraffe Project"

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About

From the Project Censored website:

About Us

Project Censored is a media research group out of Sonoma State University which tracks the news published in independent journals and newsletters. From these, Project Censored compiles an annual list of 25 news stories of social significance that have been overlooked, under-reported or self-censored by the country's major national news media.

Between 700 and 1000 stories are submitted to Project Censored each year from journalists, scholars, librarians, and concerned citizens around the world. With the help of more than 200 Sonoma State University faculty, students, and community members, Project Censored reviews the story submissions for coverage, content, reliability of sources and national significance. The university community selects 25 stories to submit to the Project Censored panel of judges who then rank them in order of importance. Current or previous national judges include: Noam Chomsky, Susan Faludi, George Gerbner, Sut Jhally, Frances Moore Lappe, Norman Solomon, Michael Parenti, Herbert I. Schiller, Barbara Seaman, Erna Smith, Mike Wallace and Howard Zinn. All 25 stories are featured in the yearbook, *Censored: The News That Didn't Make the News*.

In 1996 and 1997, the yearbook won the Firecracker Alternative Book Award, celebrating the best in alternative publishing. The release of Project Censored's yearbook has developed into a national alternative press event. In 2003, along with several independent national magazines, over 40 alternative newsweeklies carried the Top 10 Censored stories in metropolitan areas throughout the country, and Project Censored was featured on more than 125 independent talk radio and television shows. Throughout the next year and into the next decade, Project Censored will continue to inform the public, advocate for independent journalism, and strive to spark debate on current issues involving media monopoly.

Project Censored is a national research effort launched in 1976 by Dr. Carl Jensen, professor emeritus of Communications Studies at Sonoma State University. Upon Jensen's retirement in 1996, leadership of the project was passed to associate professor of sociology and media research specialist, Dr. Peter Phillips.

ADDITIONAL AUDIO

Peter Phillips interviewed Oct. 23, 2005 by Robert McChesney, University of Illinois communication professor.
[LINK](#)

Links

- [Audio](#)

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